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ORIGINAL DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION—TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

First Day.

The Twenty-sixth Annual Session of the Association convened at Louisville, Ky., on Tuesday, May 4th, at 11 A. M., in Public Library Hall, the President, Dr. William K. Bowling, of Nashville, in the chair. An introductory prayer was offered up by Elder Lamar, of the Christian Church, after which, the meeting being duly called to order, an address of welcome was read by Dr. Edward Richardson, chairman of the Committee on Arrangements.

The programme of evening receptions, and excursions, including invitations to visit the Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, the Institute for the Blind, and also that of Col. John B. McFerran, proposing a trip to his stock farm on Friday afternoon, were read and accepted.

The claims of delegates from Allen County Medical Society, of Indiana, the Arkansas State Medical Society, and the individual cases of Dr. David W. Yandell, from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Drs. Bodine and Wilson, from the Louisville Academy of Medicine, and of Drs. Rosenfield and Woodworth, of the Fort Wayne Medical Association, were referred to the Judicial Council.

Dr. N. S. Davis, of Chicago, stated that Dr. Bottsford, president of the Canadian Medical Association, was present, and moved that he be invited to take a seat upon the platform. The motion was promptly seconded, but the chair-

man decided that the gentleman should be allowed a seat upon the platform without the formality of a vote.

Dr. Bottsford, on reaching the president's desk, was presented to the audience and made some appropriate remarks.

After reading the names of the delegates, nearly three hundred of whom were found to be present,

The President's Address

was delivered by Dr. Bowling, on *The Relation of the American Medical Association to Medical Education in the Past, and its Duty to that End in the Future*, from which we make the following extracts:—

"A National Association of Medical Men was without precedent when this was ushered into existence by the genius of one man, watered by his parental solicitude, and sustained by the co-operation of his brethren, all stimulated by a common hope that good must come of it, in cementing the brotherhood in unity of purpose, and intensifying its power for the achievement of good to the profession, and consequently to the public at large. Thus organized, and freighted with the hopes and blessings of every loyal medical heart in the country, it has literally drifted through a generation. Composed of the representatives of wide spread and independent medical masses, with many-sided hopes and aspirations, many with a freedom of thought and expression peculiar to their latitudes, it has seemed in turn to delight in representing every shade of medical politics. But it still lived, and every year its ancient friends met new representatives in council, and renewing their allegiance, lighted again their torches at its altar.

The contributions of old and new were printed, and in a bound book sanctified to posterity.

"It is good occasionally to recall the grand objects its founders hoped to achieve through its instrumentality. They were:—

"*First.*—To give an emphatic expression to the views and aims of the medical profession in this country.

"*Second.*—To supply more effectual means than have hitherto been available here for cultivating and advancing medical knowledge.

"*Third.*—To elevate the standard of medical education.

"*Fourth.*—To promote the usefulness, honor and interest of the medical profession.

"*Fifth.*—To enlighten and direct public opinion in regard to the duties, responsibilities, and requirements of medical men.

"*Sixth.*—To excite and encourage emulation and concert of action in the profession.

"*Seventh.*—To facilitate and foster friendly intercourse between medical men.

"*Eighth.*—To take cognizance of the common interest of the medical profession in every part of the United States.

"Organized for the achievement of eight distinct purposes, which, in the aggregate, if accomplished, were to confer upon the profession of Medicine in America a glory which the ages had not vouchsafed to it in any country under heaven.

"What can we say in regard to the third of these objects, the elevation of medical education? In our own short history as a country, within the recollection of us all, stupendous sacrifices solved a problem undreamed of by those who precipitated them, and the history of mankind is luminous with similar examples; and those among us conversant with it are neither surprised nor disappointed that this organization, in all the years it has met, and resolved and, reported, finds itself as far as ever from the achievement of that desideratum adumbrated by its initial Convention as the chief end of its creation.

"The colleges, borrowing a word from the politicians, and recognizing the Association as national, opposed, through their accredited organs, any centralizing tendency. Medical schools multiplied, and while each adopted the Code of Ethics suggested by the Association, and was proud of being represented in it, was unwilling to concede to it any power over its local affairs, and thus, for a quarter of a century, they seemed antagonizing forces. The natural rivalry of the schools would suggest the power of the Association to aid ends honorably labored for, which would as naturally stimulate opposition. If one school sought to strengthen itself and augment its classes by obedience to the behests of the Association, its rival was as certain to oppose change, as evidence of decay, and thus strengthen itself by a recognition of the landmarks of the fathers, and a determination to deepen their footprints by walking in them.

"Meanwhile the Association, in vibrating now toward one, and anon to the other of these ex-

trêmes, seemed attempting that difficult equestrian feat of riding, at the same time, horses running in opposite directions. The schools, while denying the authority of this body to prevent them doing as they pleased, were not indisposed to invoke its countenance in favor of any peculiarity to which any of them committed themselves. While its transactions, therefore, exhibit it as a gallant ship, struggling to make headway when directly opposed to the wind, with its prow, during the effort, turned to every point of the compass, yet the skillful navigator knew, notwithstanding, that she was edging up slowly but certainly in the right direction; and the belief of this truth has sustained its friends from the beginning, and secured their cheerful attendance, when the less observing could see no future from which the clouds did not shut out the light of heaven. Such did not stop to consider how vast was the country here represented, and how widely different the outward circumstances of the men that constituted the Association at any one meeting.

"At Nashville, eighteen years ago, amid a storm of school representatives in this Association, a resolution was introduced to so change our constitution as to keep the representatives of schools and hospitals, as such, out of this body. Under the rule, it must wait a year for consideration. It was called up the next year, at Washington, after great excitement about hospital representatives, and was lost by almost a unanimous vote. In 1869, at New Orleans, the same proposition was made. A greater storm at the meeting in Washington, in 1870, from school representatives, caused deeper thought upon the subject, and at Detroit, last year, seventeen years after the Nashville resolution, to the unspeakable joy of many, the constitution was so amended as to give a permanent quietus to this disturbing element, and assurance of a calmer future.

"If, then, this body has not of itself accomplished all its friends hoped for in the beginning, in elevating the standard of medical education, they must be satisfied to know that that standard, notwithstanding, has been regularly going up, fully abreast with the progress of our new country in every other department of human learning, and all the arts and appliances of a rapidly developing civilization. The spring can only well up the waters sent to it, purifying them in process, and the sea is but the representative of many waters. The schools must take such material as they can get, and make the most of it, and the American Medical Association, as in the past, so now and hereafter, is obliged to consist of such representative medical men as the schools may prepare and fashion for its use.

"That the schools are all that their hopeful, faithful and earnest teachers can make them, and that they accomplish all that is possible with the material entrusted to them, none ought to doubt; and that the country at large selects as good material as it possesses for the schools, is equally indisputable. Nor should any be-

lieve that the youth selected for medical schools are, in respect of preparatory education, a whit inferior to those selected for the law or divinity.

"The question returns to us—what can the Association now do, in its early manhood, honestly, toward redeeming implied pledges in its infancy? Much, if it have nerve or backbone; nothing, if these be absent. The plan is simple, as all plans are that succeed. Logic and truth are simple, but without nerve the whole moral world is like an empty sack, utterly incapable of standing erect. The barrier to success has been removed by the abolition of school representation, as such, and reducing the whole body to "lay" members. It was to secure the success of the plan to be proposed, to elevate the standard of medical education, that the resolution was introduced at Nashville, in 1857, to remove the schools from the Association.

"In the arbitrary numbering of the objects for the promotion of which this body was created, that of number eight is declared to be, 'To take cognizance of the common interest of the medical profession in every part of the United States.' A very comprehensive power, assumed in the beginning, and never denied in all these years, will not be questioned now, when the moral frown of the Association would be fatal to whoever, or whatever, connected with medicine, should oppose the grand and benevolent objects that lie at its foundation. In taking cognizance of the common interest of the medical profession in every part of the United States, it must go back upon itself, and acknowledge its recreancy to the high objects of the fathers, who wore away their lives in an unswerving devotion to it, not to exercise the sum total of its legal and moral force in securing a higher standard of medical education in this country than existed at the time of its inauguration.

"Therefore, let it be solemnly resolved by this meeting, that it shall be regarded as derogatory to the character of any physician, in any part of the United States, to take under his care, as a student of medicine, any one who cannot exhibit evidence of having taken a degree in a regularly chartered college, or a certificate of qualifications necessary to become a student of medicine, from a board of examiners appointed for that purpose by the American Medical Association. This will do the work.

"There is nothing really binding in the rule suggested. The only power in the matter is the great moral weight of the Association. It enacts nothing, but simply asserts what every member of it knows to be right. After a few years, such a certificate of the Examining Board, or evidence of a college degree, might be declared necessary in order to enable an applicant for membership in this body to secure admission; for surely it is the common privilege of all organizations to judge of the qualifications of their own members. Then will the certificate of membership here pass the holder anywhere as a gentleman and scholar.

"It is precisely in this way that the medical department of the army and navy are purified. The adoption of this addition to the Code of Ethics would furnish medical gentlemen an excuse for getting rid of applicants for office study whose preliminary education they know to be defective, and whose relations they would dislike to offend by saying so.

"Neither would this rule exclude any one from being a doctor. In a vigorous republic there will always spring up men who, by genius and long self-training, literally hew their way to greatness, in all of the professions, while many more will pass through colleges, winning all their honors, to shrink into insignificance, and pass through the world unknown and unknown. For the former, heaven has made ample provisions, and stamped them as the nobility of nature, whom this body can neither depress nor elevate—nay, nor could an association of angels.

"Gentlemen, Western medicine, for a long time, established its Mecca at the Falls of the Ohio. Whatever the fashioners of taste may determine, the medical heart cannot go far astray in recalling the Titans that officiated at its altars. Many of them 'sleep well after life's fitful fever,' but the rock-girt and rock-floored river in the neighborhood of their ashes, as it throws its disturbed waters over the cascade, will chant their requiem while grass grows or water runs. One,* in a green old age, whose fame has filled the world, stands, like the statue of a demigod, poised on the apex of his monumental shaft, far above all surrounding things, pointing to an earlier day-star than greets the vision of ordinary mortality. Another,† happy in the memories of a well-spent life, the charming grace of whose cultured pen has left an imperishable record, lingers in the peaceful enjoyment of that subdued and enchanting twilight of life between sundown and the 'deeper gloaming' so in harmony with the spirit of the good, having thrown his mantle on other shoulders, patiently awaits the 'translation.' One,‡ the Galen now of the great city of the Republic, garners the golden sheaves of a crop sown long ago, and thoroughly cultivated. Another,§ the American Dupuytren, on the fringe of the sunny land of the orange and the magnolia, with the premonitions of a glorious sunset gathering about him, in faith and hope is also ready. We know that their example is not lost on those who have taken their places in the flourishing medical institutions of this noble city, a city whose munificence to medicine has entitled it forever to the kindest memories of the profession."

Upon the conclusion of the address, which was frequently interrupted by expressions of commendation upon the part of his hearers, a vote of thanks was passed, and the address placed in the hands of the publishing committee.

Upon the request of Dr. S. D. Gross, of Phila-

* S. D. Gross. † L. P. Vandell. ‡ Austin Flint. § P. F. Eve.

delphia, that he be permitted to deliver a lecture upon "One of the Lost Arts," this morning, a motion was made to that effect and unanimously carried.

This brought the session to a close, after the reference of the subjects to be considered in the several Section rooms to their proper Sections.

Second Day.

The second day's session was marked by an increased attendance, and a livelier interest in the proceedings.

The Association was called to order by the president.

The following delegates were proposed for permanent membership: Drs. C. J. Walton, of Mansfield, Ky.; W. S. O'Neal, Berlin, Ky.; E. D. Foree and S. H. Horner, of Louisville; W. C. Hall, Franklin, Ind.; R. D. Huley, Elizabethtown, Ky.; C. J. Renfro, Pleasureville, Ky.; and W. C. Tucker, Danville, Ky.

In all 467 delegates were reported as present this day.

A delegate wanted the names of permanent members to be read separate from the others.

Another delegate hoped the list would not be read again, but that it be taken for granted that each gentleman belongs to a legitimate society.

Dr. Davis observed that this was not a matter of feeling, but of regulation.

The reading of the list was thereupon proceeded with, when a delegate asked, "Would it be legitimate to refer the matter to a committee?" He was answered that it would be.

Dr. Davis said:—

If there is any trouble about this it arises from not taking heed to our constitution and by-laws. I believe the constitution is written plainly, that permanent members who are to be elected must be recommended by a committee of arrangements from locations where there are no local societies existing at the time, or else they must be members of good standing in their State societies. The idea is, that members should not come here to be made permanent members when there are local societies in their own place entitled to representation, and they not members of such local societies. Such cannot be admitted here, to the neglect of such local organizations.

The question was raised: "Could a delinquent member be restored to his privileges by the payment of back dues?" It was answered by the citation of an instance at the last session, in Detroit, in which a former member desired to be reinstated by the payment of twenty-five years' back dues, but was refused.

The secretary said that he had the applications for membership, by invitation, of Drs. W. B. Rodman, of Frankfort, Ky., and E. Poynter, of Midway, Ky.; J. H. Rock, of Chicago, and Drs. R. Bolling and S. O. Wetherbee. They were accordingly elected. An invitation from the Commissioners of Public Charity, to visit the City Hospital, was accepted.

It was at length resolved to take a recess of fifteen minutes, that the delegates from each State might select one of their number as a member of the committee on nomination of officers for the ensuing year.

CANADA'S GREETING.

The following communication from the Canada Medical Association was read and received:—

MONTREAL, April 19th, 1875.

W. B. Atkinson, Esq., M. D., Secretary American Medical Association:—

DEAR SIR—As the time is approaching for the meeting of the American Medical Association, I have much pleasure in forwarding a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted at the last meeting of the Canada Medical Association, held at Niagara Falls on the 5th and 6th of August, 1874, and request that you will kindly bring it to the notice of your association. The Canada Medical Association will meet this year at Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the first Wednesday in August, and would be much pleased at seeing, as heretofore, delegates from your association, and I think it more than probable that our association will be represented at your meeting by at least two of our members, one of whom will be our president, Dr. LeB. Bottsford, of St. Johns, New Brunswick.

I am, dear sir, yours very truly,

D. H. DAUD, M.D., D.C.L.,

Gen. Secretary Canadian Medical Association.

THE RESOLUTION.

It was moved by Dr. Grant, and seconded by Dr. Caniff—

That, in consideration of the best interests of medical science, it is desirable that a medical conference should take place between the American and Canada Medical Associations, at some central point, to be determined upon, and that the American Medical Association be advised as to the desirability of thus becoming more intimately acquainted, and affording an opportunity for the discussion of medical and surgical subjects on a common basis.

The motion was carried unanimously, when Dr. Kingston, seconded by Dr. Bottsford, moved:

That in the event of such conference being determined upon, it would be desirable that the Secretary of the Canada Medical Association notify the various local medical societies, so that our Dominion might take part in a manner worthy of the occasion and in keeping with the interests of medical science.

This motion was also passed unanimously.

The proposition contained in this letter was referred to the Committee on Nominations.

A member desired to know where the Committee on Nominations should meet. The session-room of the Seventh-ward school building was announced as the place of meeting, it having been kindly tendered, on behalf of the School Board, by Prof. J. M. Keller.

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The following communication from Dr. E. Seguin, of New York, urging this Association to send delegates to Europe to confer with foreign medical associations in regard to the uniformization of clinical observations, instruments, scales, etc., was received and placed on file:—

To the American Medical Association:—

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—You have twice sent delegates to the British Medical Association and kindred European societies, to invite them to consent to a plan of uniformity of methods, instruments, scales, and records of clinical observation. The proposition has become more opportune since the meeting in Paris of the Convention for the adoption of uniform weights and measures by all nations, in which convention Professors Henry and Hilyard represented the United States, but in which the special wants of unity of measures of our profession were not represented. This proposition was approved by Sir William Jenner, MM., Reynolds, Gibson, Stewart, Squire, Sydney Ringer, Wilson, and Tilbury Fox in England; on the continent by MM. Maxey, Charcot, Lozain, Potain, Lepine, Ollier, and Chaveau, all ready to open a commission in Paris and a sub-commission in Lyons, in order to concert in your plan of uniform observation. This plan embraces the unity of clinical thermometers, and of thermometric scales, charts, etc.; a uniform graduation of the sphygmograph, myograph, spiograph, æsthesiometer, dynamometer, globulimeter, ophthalmoscope, and other instruments of precision used in diagnosis, a uniform method of measuring and registering the hearing, and velocity of other sensory impressions, the regularity of co-ordinate movements, as the walk, and a uniform registration of all clinical cases according to their kind. Of this plan the International Medical Congress, meeting at Brussels, will take early action. It is, therefore, important that the American Medical Association be represented this year at Brussels, in order to represent there the original plan of uniformization of clinical observation in its integrity and entirety.

Therefore the American Medical Association resolves to nominate new delegates, commissioned to again advocate in Europe the unity of clinical observations, and charges them to report progress in brief at the meeting in 1876.

E. SEGUIN, one of the Delegates.

New-York, E. Twenty-first street, April 27, 1875.

DR. GROSS' ADDRESS.

The order of the day for eleven o'clock having arrived, namely, the reading by Prof. S. D. Gross, of Philadelphia, of a paper entitled "One of the Lost Arts," that gentleman was called for, and at length appeared, amidst the wildest applause. Upon the subsidence of this, the speaker good-humoredly prefaced the reading of his essay with the following remarks:—

"Before reading this paper, Mr. President, I wish to tender my acknowledgments to the Association for permitting me to appear before them to-day, in a manner, as it were, out of order. This paper might have been referred to one of the Sections, but I was very desirous of reading it in the body. I am afraid my friends in the gallery will consider me a fraud when I begin to announce what the title of my paper really is. I desire to occupy the attention of the Association with the task of offering some remarks upon one of the lost arts of the profession. I allude to blood-letting, considered as a therapeutic agent."

The tenor of this able article was in reference to the uses and abuses of blood-letting; that while the physicians of a few generations back resorted to the lancet as a specific remedy in the management of promiscuous diseases, both acute and chronic, the system of blood-letting, after having reached this extreme, had fallen gradually into disuse, until, at the present day, it was as much as a physician's reputation was worth to hazard the suggestion of blood-letting, save in its slight topical form, as in the use of the scarificator, cupping glasses, and the occasional application of leeches. He thought it was really saying too much, with our present extreme prejudices against venesection, that we should assume to be so much wiser than our fathers, who had lent their approval to a custom that had been sanctioned by ages of experience. Might we not, in going to the opposite extreme, do violence to a principle that was really conservative in its nature? It was the extreme view taken either way that was likely to occasion untoward results. It was the fashion of the present day to decry this kind of practice, and, like many other fashions, it was founded upon ideas that would not stand the test of reasoning investigation. Even disease itself, in some form or other, had often become fashionable.

An instance in point was cited, in reference to Louis XIV, of France, who was afflicted with a loathsome disease, with which the people of his court soon became fashionably infected, and which many of the higher classes affected. There was as much tyranny exercised by the opinion of an eminent authority (eminent because it was *foreign*) in support of improbable or questionable medical views, as there was in the mandates of the queen of fashion, foremost among whom, in her time, was the Empress Eugenie, and to which every woman felt herself compelled to yield, or else forego her influence and standing in the fashionable world. So with a majority of the medical profession, who abandoned voluntarily, or felt compelled so to do, old and once cherished opinions, in order that, by following new theories, they might not render themselves conspicuous by an adherence to the ancient regime. It was simply the fashion of the day. The speaker said that, though he was no prophet, nor the son of a prophet, the time was fast coming, if it were not already at hand, when a reaction would ensue in favor of

the therapeutical effect of blood-letting, and the idle lancet be again resorted to as one of the main reliances in the treatment of many forms of disease, particularly in the acute stages; for, continued he, history is constantly repeating itself, and knowledge runs in a circle. There were times to bleed and times not to bleed, and these distinctions, wherein our fathers erred, we of this day and time are enabled to recognize readily and turn to valuable account. When we had acquired a more accurate knowledge of diseases, the tendency to run into extremes would be less characteristic of the profession, if not avoided altogether.

The substitute for the lancet, now-a-days, consisted in the administration of medicines that had a tendency to reduce the fullness, frequency and power of the heart's action, and the extreme use of these was more dangerous than the one decried. Women in child-bed had often lost immense quantities of blood, more than an old-time physician could ever think he had occasion to draw; hemorrhages from various causes, and the continued and immoderate use of the lancet, in many recorded cases, in which no more blood came away because there was too little left to run, could be cited, and yet recovery followed, and the life-current was speedily reproduced, under a nourishing and sustaining after-treatment.

Cases of acute diseases, and those in other stages of development, were cited to prove the efficacy of a timely abstraction of blood from a vein, and individual cases were likewise produced, in which this feature of practice was proven to be the only one which insured a further lease of life or ultimate recovery.

The reading of this essay occupied an hour in its delivery, and at its conclusion it was unanimously referred to the Committee on Publication.

The following communication from Dr. Toner, which speaks for itself, with accompanying resolution, was read and adopted:

MEDICAL PROMOTIONS IN THE ARMY.

The Committee (of one from each State) on the Rank of the Medical Department of the Army, respectfully report: That, as soon as possible, after the adjournment of the Detroit meeting of this Association, a form of petition to Congress was agreed upon, in which the unsatisfactory position of the medical corps was briefly stated, and the nature of the relief asked for indicated. This petition was circulated among the physicians of the several States by the members of the committee, and was very extensively signed. In connection with the petition, an explanatory pamphlet was widely distributed. It contained a "brief statement of the facts" connected with the subject, and a draft of a bill, the passage of which would have placed the medical corps on a satisfactory footing in the matter of rank. A copy of the pamphlet is herewith submitted. The bill, which was prepared after consultation with the

Surgeon General and a number of the other medical officers of the army, did not propose to alter the number of medical officers now allowed by law, but merely provided that after thirteen years' service medical officers should have the rank of major; after twenty-three years' service, the rank of lieutenant colonel, and, after thirty years, the rank of colonel. Immediately after Congress convened, last December, this bill was duly introduced in both Houses, and in each read twice, and referred to the Military Committee. During the rest of the session every effort was made to secure its favorable consideration. Three petitions from the several States were duly presented; copies of the explanatory pamphlet were sent to each Senator, and members were personally conferred with. These efforts were so far successful, that, before the close of the month of December the Military Committee of the House of Representatives agreed to report the bill to the favorable consideration of the House, but the press of other measures of greater political interest caused this to be postponed from time to time, until the session came to a close without any action having been taken. It is believed, however, that the medical profession of the United States will not be satisfied with this inaction. Your committee have certainly found a gratifying unanimity of sentiment on the subject among the physicians of all parts of the country, and have been led to believe that it is their earnest desire that this Association shall continue to urge the claims of their brethren of the medical staff of the army upon Congress, until such a law is enacted as will secure to them the share of rank we believe they ought to enjoy.

It is hoped that the matter may be pressed at the next session of Congress with a chance of better success than it had at the last session. Much assistance will doubtless be rendered by those physicians who are personally acquainted with members of Congress, by explaining the merits of the appeal made, but this Association certainly ought also to continue its efforts; and the passage of the following resolutions is, therefore, recommended:—

Resolved, That this Association learns with regret that no action was taken by the last Congress upon its recommendation in behalf of the medical department of the United States army, and that we respectfully renew our petition, that Congress will enact such a bill, for the benefit of the medical department of the army, as will secure to its officers that share of rank and promotion to which we consider they are entitled, and which should be at least fully equal to that enjoyed by any other staff corps, or by the medical corps of the navy.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to call the attention of Congress to this subject, and the petitions which were forwarded to the last Congress by the physicians of the United States.

J. M. TONER,

Chairman of the Committee.

MEDICAL DISCOVERIES.

The address of the president of the Section on Practical Medicine, by Dr. Austin Flint, of New York, one of the most distinguished of living practitioners, was then announced, amid the plaudits of the assembly. He began by saying that he had the honor to submit a rather imperfect report upon medical discoveries for the past year, the reading of which would occupy some twenty or thirty minutes.

The subject-matter of the essay referred to alcoholism, motor centres, new remedial agents, transfusion of blood, and the natural history of crime. The changes of alcohol in the system, and its medicinal uses, were dwelt upon at some length. Some held that alcohol passes into the blood and is expelled through the emunctories unchanged, while others denied this, and held that it was appropriated by the animal economy. Well-conducted experiments, however, went to prove that when alcohol was thus taken into the system, the proportion excreted by the kidneys, lungs and skin is exceedingly small, the greater part being destroyed in the body. What becomes of it? This remains to be answered by further experimental researches. Six hundred grains of absolute alcohol can be disposed of without injury to the bodily functions of a healthy adult. It is accordingly employed in the treatment of many conditions of disease, though its use is not based upon any ascertained facts concerning its elimination.

The physiological investigations during the past year in relation to motor centres of the brain convolutions was then touched upon, and likewise with reference to newly-discovered remedial agents, when the lecturer passed on to the consideration of the transfusion of blood.

While there were many experiments performed in the transfusion of the blood of one animal into the veins of another of unlike genus, and of the blood of a lamb into the veins of a man, himself a physician, in one instance, there were certain curious results noticed, but nothing positive had been elaborated that would justify the positive advocacy of any reliable feature or theory of practice. The subject was not without interest or promise, however, and afforded an ample field for any one whose zeal for the advancement of medical knowledge in that direction was equal to the task of an investigation, and which could hardly fail, eventually, to be of signal advantage to the profession.

The closing feature of the paper had reference to the natural history of crime, in which the query was announced concerning the possible connection of individual tendencies to the commission of crime with corresponding diseased conditions of the organization. It was very ingeniously and elaborately put forth, together with the possibility, finally, of medical treatment for such conditions, under specific classifications, as in the case of real diseases. This, of course, implied a discussion of the responsibility for criminal acts, which should,

however, offer no hindrance to enlightened investigation.

The bulk of the essay embraced the consideration of this last topic, and the effort was listened to with the most profound attention by the large audience. It was accepted and referred to the Section of Practical Medicine, and will be published in the annual report of the Association. By a unanimous vote Dr. Flint was authorized to continue the researches alluded to in his paper.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The report of Dr. Toner, suggesting the organization of an international medical association, in which the profession in America should be represented, the said association to meet in Brussels, for the purpose of agreeing upon a system of nomenclature, registration, etc., etc., was referred to the Committee on Nominations.

The committee appointed by the Association, at its meeting last year, to select a medal to be presented to each member, reported that it had selected a die with the vignette of Dr. N. S. Davis, the founder of the Association, on the obverse side, and with the name and date of said society upon the reverse; and that it had arranged for the manufacture of the medal, in bronze, at the mint in Philadelphia, at a cost of \$1.12 each, the twelve cents being for postage. The report was received, and the committee instructed to order two hundred of the medals.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY.

Dr. S. B. Todd, of Lexington, announced that Dr. John B. Jackson, of Lexington, chairman of the Prize Essay Committee, was lying ill at his hotel, and moved a resolution expressive of the sincere regret of the Association that he is unable to participate in its deliberations, and tendering him the sympathy and condolence of the body at large. The resolution was submitted in writing and unanimously passed.

The Convention then adjourned till 9.30 o'clock the following morning.

Third Day.

The Association was called to order at 10 o'clock, a half hour later than the time appointed for opening the session, with Dr. Bowling, the president, in the chair.

The secretary read an invitation from the Social Science Convention, that convenes in Detroit, May 11-14th, to the American Medical Association, to attend the deliberations of that organization. The invitation was received and filed.

DELEGATES TO EUROPE.

A number of the members having signified their intention of going abroad this summer, it was decided that they should consider themselves delegates to the International Conference, to meet at Brussels in September. The

following gentlemen were given credentials to that effect:—

Dr. J. A. Adrian,	Dr. E. C. Harwood,
Dr. J. C. Hutchinson,	Dr. H. D. Hulton,
Dr. J. C. Huff,	Dr. H. R. Warner.

PRIZE ESSAY.

A communication was read from Dr. Seelye, of Alabama, offering a prize of \$100 for the best essay on Bright's disease of the kidneys, the merits of the production to be passed upon by a committee chosen from the Association.

A pamphlet was received relating to Florida climatology, and the secretary was instructed to have it spread upon the minutes.

Dr. D. S. Reynolds was accorded permission to read a paper before the Association at its next annual meeting, relating to his observations on the mechanism of the eye.

DELEGATES TO CANADA.

The Association, during the session of the day previous, had received the following resolution from the Canada Medical Association:—

Resolved, That in consideration of the best interests of medical science, it is desirable that a medical conference should take place between the American Medical Association and the Canada Medical Association, at some central point.

On motion of Dr. E. H. Wood, the suggestion implied in the above was approved, by the following action:—

WHEREAS, The Canada Medical Association has adopted and forwarded to this Association the above resolution, be it

Resolved, That a committee of thirteen be appointed by this Association, whose duty it shall be to confer with a like committee of the Canada Medical Association, at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the joint committee of the Associations.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee:—

- Dr. S. D. Gross, Pennsylvania.
- Dr. John T. Hodgkin, Missouri.
- Dr. Austin Flint, New York.
- Dr. Willoughby Walling, Kentucky.
- Dr. T. C. Lane, California.
- Dr. Wirt Johnson, Mississippi.
- Dr. Wm. Brodie, Michigan.
- Dr. J. M. Toner, Washington.
- Dr. T. D. Cunningham, Virginia.
- Dr. E. Andrews, Illinois.
- Dr. Wm. B. Atkinson, Pennsylvania.
- Dr. H. I. Bowditch, Massachusetts.
- Dr. Robert Bartholow, Ohio.

The object of this conference is the consultation upon medical subjects, and mutual exchange of views in regard to scientific topics, and the establishment of closer relation between the two national associations.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY.

At this point Dr. Austin Flint arose and addressed the chair:—

MR. PRESIDENT—During the present meet-

ing of the American Medical Association, we have missed the familiar face and the active co-operation of one of the most distinguished members of our profession in the city of Louisville—Dr. Lewis Rogers. He is ill, and has been so for some months. Under these circumstances it seems proper that the Association should express a tribute of respect to, and sympathy for our worthy colleague. I, therefore, offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the American Medical Association tender to Dr. Lewis Rogers regret for the illness that has deprived the Association of his presence and aid in the proceedings, and our hope that the profession and the community may again be blessed by his return to the enjoyment of health.

The resolution was adopted with unanimity.

CREDENTIALS.

Dr. Richardson, from the Committee on Credentials, reported that it had been deemed advisable to refer to the Committee on Ethics the question of the eligibility of the Marion County Medical Association of Indiana.

CURTIS MEMORIAL.

A communication from the Sacramento Medical Society was received, announcing the decease of Dr. Ed. M. Curtis, one of the most noted physicians of the Pacific coast, and inclosing a memorial, eulogizing his life and character.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The report of the Treasurer of the Association was read and received. The organization was shown to have attained a degree of financial prosperity greater than ever before in its history. There was a cash balance in the exchequer of \$3022.41.

M'DOWELL MEMORIAL FUND.

Dr. J. Marion Sims, of New York, obtained the floor, the announcement of his name evoking loud applause. He arose to submit a report from the special Committee appointed to devise plans for the establishment of the McDowell Memorial Fund. He spoke earnestly in behalf of the report, urging the Association to be mindful of the obligations that the medical profession and humanity in general were under, to the great "Father of Ovariectomy." The following is the report:—

WHEREAS, it is universally acknowledged that the late Ephraim McDowell, of Kentucky, was the originator of the operation of ovariectomy; and,

WHEREAS, we believe that proper measures should be instituted to commemorate this great achievement and do appropriate honor to its author; therefore,

Resolved, That this Association recommend to each of its members and to the profession generally, to contribute annually such sums as they may think proper, until the amount of \$10,000 shall be accumulated, which shall be

known as the McDowell Memorial Fund, the interest of which shall be devoted to the payment of prizes for the best essays relating to the diseases and surgery of the ovaries.

Resolved, That this fund shall be invested by trustees, to be appointed by the Association, and subject to such regulations as it may desire.

Resolved, That the association shall elect a board of three trustees, whose duty it shall be to carry out the object of these resolutions, and whose term of office shall continue five years.

Resolved, That this Association will leave to the State of Kentucky the grateful privilege of providing a local memorial to the memory of Dr. McDowell. Respectfully submitted,

J. MARION STMS, New York,
WASHINGTON L. ATLEE, Pennsylvania,
W. T. BYFORD, Illinois,
J. M. KELLER, Kentucky.

Upon the adoption of the report, Dr. Gross addressed a few remarks to the Convention pertinent to the matter. He said that in 1852, in conjunction with a number of physicians of Kentucky, he had investigated the claims of Dr. McDowell to the origination of the operation that has been of such incalculable good to mankind, and it was then established beyond all question that to him belonged all the honor of having first introduced the operation. He concluded his remarks by subscribing \$100 to the fund.

CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE.

Dr. Gross, as chairman of the Centennial Medical Commission of Philadelphia, announced that it was designed to hold an International Medical Conference in Philadelphia during the Centennial celebration. He then read from a circular the purport and plan of the movement. The Philadelphia County Medical Society, embracing nearly two hundred members, many of them of high professional distinction, animated by a just spirit of patriotism, and an earnest desire to unite with its fellow-citizens in celebrating the centennial birthday of American Independence, have projected an International Medical Conference. Arrangements have been perfected to hold the session during September, 1876. Addresses will be then read, illustrating the advance in the profession during the past one hundred years. Invitations have been sent all over the world. The hospitalities of Philadelphia are proffered. Delegates will be expected from the association and from State societies.

QUESTIONS OF ELIGIBILITY.

Dr. S. W. Benham, of the Judicial Council, made the following report:—

The Judicial Council of the American Medical Association would respectfully report as follows:—

"In reference to the difficulties existing between the Allen County Medical Society, of Indiana, and the Fort Wayne Medical Association,

of Indiana, would respectfully refer the whole subject to the State Medical Society of Indiana for adjudication. In reference to the Arkansas State Medical Association, the following resolution was adopted, to wit: That the delegates of the said State Medical Association should be admitted to proper registration at this meeting of the American Medical Association; also that the protest of the local societies of Arkansas be referred to the State society for adjudication."

The name of Dr. Sweeney, as a delegate from the State Medical Society of Kentucky, was rejected, for the simple reason that that State had already sent its full complement of delegates to this Association.

The following resolution in regard to delegates from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Louisville was passed:—

"That the list of delegates appointed by the society known as the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Louisville, Ky., consisting of Drs. Turner Anderson, Wm. Baily, D. W. Yandell, Lewis Rogers and G. W. Holland, are the lawful and proper delegates from that society, and that the Committee of Arrangements should correct the registry of members for this meeting of the Association in conformity thereto.

"Also, in reference to the Academy of Medicine of Louisville, that the action of the Committee of Arrangements in declining to receive and register the names of all the delegates appointed by the Society known as the Louisville Academy of Medicine is approved as correct, simply because it is believed that the Association had already received from the State Medical Society of Kentucky, and the local societies in Louisville having a prior active existence, the full number of delegates to which the profession of Louisville are entitled under the present constitution of this Association."

THE TRANSFUSION OF BLOOD.

The hour having arrived for the reading of a paper upon the subject of Transfusion of Blood, by Dr. H. M. Moore, of Rochester, New York, that gentleman then appeared and interested his audience upon the comparatively new subject set forth in his essay, of which the following is an abstract:—

"Various methods of proceeding have been proffered by the disciples of transfusion. When first successfully performed it excited the highest hopes of friends, and attracted the attention of the great, who were interested spectators of the operation, and who predicted for it great therapeutic value. They indulged themselves in visions of life transmitted to the moribund patient from the superabundant supply of friends who would interpose a timely supply of healthy blood, and they, in their new-found zeal, almost imagined that death had been practically vanquished, and that youth, by this means, would be insured to the aged and decrepid. But the practice in this early day did not fulfill the expectations predicted of it, and, after a time, it ceased to be regarded as having any

practical significance. In more recent times the subject had been revived, and the attention of the profession fixed upon it by a published article from a celebrated physician in Geneva, who described the operation as practiced in St. Petersburg, which had not only been attended with marked success, but had enlisted the attention of royalty itself, together with that of the most distinguished physicians of the Russian empire. The operation was designed for the relief of those losing blood in battle, but soon became of more extended application, and old hopes soon became revived in modern science. Yet, as the speaker remarked, it must be confessed that our knowledge, even to the present time, concerning the therapeutic value of blood transfusion is decidedly limited.

"This operation, with all the wonderful advantages claimed for it, was not a sudden discovery, but grew out of the experiments of Dr. Christopher Wren, in injecting medicinal substances into the veins; while this, in turn, grew out of Harvey's discovery of the circulation of blood, in the early part of the Seventeenth century. In 1665, two continental physicians prosecuted a series of experiments upon the lower animals, in respect to blood transfusion, but without any notable degree of success. Laner, another physician, took up this line of investigation in the same year. He connected the carotid artery of one dog with the jugular vein of another, and varied the operation at different times in respect to others; and, though not remarkably successful in these experiments, he thought, upon the whole, that he detected some results which were favorable to the theory.

"Another experimenter passed the blood of a calf into the veins of a dog, but such being an infringement upon the laws of nature, the result proved a failure. The first operation of transfusion in the case of a human being occurred in Paris. A young man, sixteen years old, who had been suffering two months from an obstinate fever, had introduced into his veins eight ounces of arterial blood from a lamb, and, notwithstanding the shock to his system, all unfavorable symptoms passed away, and he finally recovered. The case of a man, aged forty-five years, was cited, into whose veins were introduced ten ounces of the arterial blood of a lamb. He was not at all incommoded by the operation, and even went the next day to have the operation repeated. Another man, reduced by dysentery, was transfused with the blood of a calf, and revived in twenty-four hours, but when it was found necessary to repeat the process, such proved of no avail. Another case cited referred to that of an insane man, into whose veins were introduced, at one time, ten ounces of the arterial blood of a calf, and at another, six ounces more. He seemed somewhat better, in consequence, and a third transfusion was made, in which a larger quantity of blood was injected, and finally, upon recovering, his reason was supposed cured, but in a few days thereafter he gave up the ghost.

"Such fatal experiences at length checked in-

quiry and enthusiasm in this direction, and as late as the year 1868 interest in transfusion had almost entirely disappeared.

"In recounting the later experiments of transfusion, reference was made to the variety of procedure in such investigation, in which arterial blood was introduced into the veins, venous blood into the arteries, and each kind of fluid, with its fellow, as introduced from animals into the human system, and from one human being to another. Instances were also given, in which defibrinated blood was injected into both arteries and veins. In the experiments thus enumerated, reference was also made to the direct admixture of the blood of one animal of different species, or genus with that of another, as, for instance, the blood of birds with that of quadrupeds, quadrupeds with birds, that of cold blooded animals with the warm blooded, and *vice versa*; but only in those nearest of kin or allied in species were the results proved to be favorable, in which the vital functions were restored, and the new forces re-established.

"The danger attending the original experiments was the accidental introduction of air into the veins, the result of which, in all cases, is immediate death. There was also another drawback to the success of this operation at that time, which was the coagulation of blood before it could be speedily introduced from the veins of the donor to those of the recipient. And accordingly the minds of those engaged in the prosecution of this matter were taxed to invent instruments and appliances by means of which these difficulties could be overcome. Improvements in this direction had gone on, until at present the apparatus in use was found to answer all practical purposes, and all liability to the accidental ingress of air into the veins was avoided, while it insured such a speedy transfer of blood from the donor to the recipient as effectually prevented any tendency to thickening or coagulation thereof. Engravings of the several kinds of instruments used for this purpose were exhibited and explained by the lecturer."

To give some idea of the manner of using the instrument preferred by the speaker, two boys were seated on the stage, close together, one representing the donor, from whom the blood was to be taken, and the other the recipient of the life-giving fluid. The latter, however, as the speaker observed, must always occupy the recumbent position, and the former that of sitting. The arms of both were extended and made to approximate to each other, the operator standing behind them in order to demonstrate, which position, he remarked, was the position the surgeon should assume in this operation. First, the skin over the cephalic vein of the recipient must be clipped, to lay bare that vessel, which was to be further isolated from adhering tissues, in order to be gotten at successfully. That of the donor was to be held in ready juxtaposition for the operation. The instrument consisted of a small silver tube, four

or five inches long, with a small gutta percha bag adjusted to an attachment at its centre. When one end of this instrument was introduced into the vein of the donor, the speedy filling of which was to be insured by a ligature above the bend of the arm, the bag would soon be filled with blood. The connection of this with the vein was then to be severed, and the contents of the bag introduced gently through the other end of the instrument, which, in the meantime, was to be inserted into the bared vein of the recipient.

The consideration of this subject seemed to be exhausted, so far as the present state of knowledge upon the matter is concerned, which yet affords a wide, interesting and useful field for investigation.

This was followed by the reading of an essay, by Dr. Byford, of Illinois, upon the treatment of "Uterine Fibroid Tumors," which occupied the remainder of the session. It was also well received and referred for publication.

The Association then adjourned until 9:30 A.M.

Fourth Day.

The fourth session was called to order at 9.30 o'clock, A. M.

The committee on cultivation of the cinchona tree in the United States, which had been continued from year to year, reported that no progress had as yet been made. The report was received and the committee discharged.

Dr. Keller said that it had been customary to vote at the close of each session an amount of money necessary to defray the expenses of some of the offices of this Association; but he thought that such should not lie over for a year before being acted upon.

This matter was disposed of by the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That all motions involving the authorization of expenditure of funds, except the expenses of the Committee on Publication and salary of the secretary, shall be referred to the judicial council for recommendation before final action be taken upon them by the Association.

DELEGATES TO CANADA.

The following gentlemen were appointed delegates to the Canada Medical Association:—

- Dr. S. D. Gross, Pennsylvania.
- Dr. Turner Anderson, Kentucky.
- Dr. Willoughby Walling, Kentucky.
- Dr. Wm. B. Atkinson, Pennsylvania.
- Dr. Wm. Brodie, Michigan.
- Dr. E. T. Easley, Texas.

The president and secretary were allowed power to add names to both as may be desirable.

M'DOWELL MEMORIAL TRUSTEES.

In accordance with the action of the session of the day previous, the following gentlemen were chosen trustees of the McDowell Memorial Fund:—

- Dr. W. L. Atlee, Philadelphia.

Dr. W. H. Byford, Chicago.
 Dr. J. D. Jackson, Danville, Ky.
 Dr. J. M. Keller, Louisville.
 Dr. J. Marion Sims, the president, ex-officio chairman.

Dr. Wood, from the Committee on Nominations, reported the following gentlemen to fill the various offices of the Association:—

President.—Dr. J. Marion Sims, of New York.

Vice-Presidents.—First, Dr. John D. Jackson, of Kentucky; second, Dr. Samuel Lilly, of New Jersey; third, Dr. N. Pinkney, of United States army; fourth, Dr. S. D. Seelye, of Alabama.

Treasurer.—Dr. Casper Wister, of Pennsylvania.

Librarian.—Dr. William Lee, of District of Columbia.

Committee on Library.—Dr. Johnson Eliot, of District of Columbia.

Assistant Secretary.—Dr. Richard J. Dunglison, of Pennsylvania.

Committee on Arrangements.—Drs. William Pepper, chairman; Frank Maury, Albert Fricke, A. Hewson, S. W. Gross, William Goodell and Thomas M. Drysdale.

Committee on Publication.—Dr. F. G. Smith, Thomas M. Drysdale, Albert Fricke and Wm. B. Atkinson, all of Philadelphia.

OFFICERS OF SECTIONS.

Practice of Medicine, Materia Medica and Physiology.—Dr. F. G. Smith, of Pennsylvania, chairman; Dr. B. A. Vaughn, of Mississippi, secretary.

Obstetrics and Diseases of Women.—Dr. Samuel C. Busey, of District of Columbia, chairman; Dr. R. Battey, of Georgia, secretary.

Surgery and Anatomy.—Dr. Alonzo Garcelon, of Maine, chairman; Dr. E. T. Easley, of Texas, secretary.

Medical Jurisprudence, Chemistry and Physiology.—Dr. E. L. Howard, of Maryland, chairman; Dr. E. L. Hurlburt, of Illinois, secretary.

State Medicine and Public Hygiene.—Dr. R. C. Kedzie, of Michigan, chairman; Dr. Ezra M. Hunt, of New Jersey, secretary.

CLIMATIC INFLUENCES.

Dr. Franklin Staples, of Minnesota, was appointed to report on the influence of Minnesota climate on pulmonary diseases; Dr. Charles Dennison, of Colorado, to report on the same in Colorado; and Dr. E. T. Sabal, of Florida, to report on the same in Florida.

DR. BOWDITCH, ON HYGIENE.

The hour having now arrived for the reading of a paper by Dr. Bowditch, on Public Hygiene, that gentleman appeared, in response to the notification. Instead of giving a treatise on hygiene proper, embracing recent discoveries and suggestions in reference thereto, the speaker said he preferred to consider the propriety of the organization of a National Council of Health.

The attempt to organize such a council, how-

ever, could only be made successful by the union of sentiment and labor between State medical societies and this National Medical Association itself, and much, therefore, remains to be done before this great end can be accomplished. It would be unwise and precipitate, when there are so few State medical societies, to agitate the matter in Congress at this time. Physicians had to be educated to this end, the public must be gradually inducted into the merits and advantages of such a measure, while Congressmen themselves needed wholesome instruction in hygienic science, before the general mind could be made to feel the necessity for the establishment of such a means of protection to the national health. This task must be accomplished by the profession at large, and though years might necessarily elapse before ignorance and prejudice could be removed, still the enterprise, in its wide and beneficent nature, should never be permitted to flag; and when, at last, the result is successfully attained, the effect upon the life, health, wealth, strength and influence of the nation would be such as to secure its perpetuity for the benefit of those who shall succeed us on the stage of life.

The speaker said that he had sent circular letters of inquiry to the secretaries of associations in reference to what had been done in regard to the public health, and, out of thirty-six States, twenty-two had returned a definite answer. Are we in a fit condition for a national health council, to be placed under the guidance of this Association, when so many of our correspondents failed to respond to a few simple questions, requiring only a certain amount of reflection, and scarcely an iota of solid work? Seventeen, out of twenty-two States, have answered with various degrees of reasons in reference to a national council, and afford striking evidence of the indecision of the profession of the country. Six of this number were enthusiastically in favor of pressing the matter.

One gentleman advanced views that few of us would indorse. He says "the health department of the Government is more important than the judiciary." Another said "such a bureau would save millions of money." Another was for establishing it at once, and urged that it would stimulate the formation of State and municipal medical boards. On the other hand, five were doubtful of success, and assigned, as their reason, the probability of political intrigue, or the subversion of the enterprise to pecuniary gain on the part even of men of professed ability. Fifteen correspondents replied in the negative. Five are trying to induce their legislatures to establish boards, three made ineffectual efforts, while five have made no effort toward this end. Of these United States, only eight have State medical boards of health, while twenty-eight have nothing of the kind.

The speaker thought that State medical boards of health should be organized, to be composed of both professional and lay members. In that of his own (Massachusetts), the board

consisted of three physicians and four laymen, the latter being citizens eminent for their intelligence and public spirit, one of whom was a civil engineer, who stood at the head of his profession; another was a noted historical writer, while a third was a wholesale leather dealer, who was valuable by his ability to win over the belligerent butchers, who generally fought against sanitary supervision. Concerning the practical advantages to be derived from the deliberations and the authority of a National Council of Health, the speaker proceeded to specify some of these, in the way of general utility to the whole country. In the broad zone of territory extending from Maine to Florida, and from ocean to ocean, there are fertile prairies, vast morasses, lagoons, swamps, etc., and all those portions of our territory must be brought under scientific manipulation in order to fit them for healthy abode. In the past, as at the present time, there are hecatombs of men sacrificed, from ignorance of hygienic laws, and to enable the Government to bring all this under the supervision of a sanitary board is not the work of a moment. He thought that there should be a department of hygiene created by the Government, which should be represented in the Presidential Cabinet. This would embrace the oversight of hospitals, insane asylums, forts, camps, barracks, medical storehouses, etc., to say nothing of the general supervision of that department over its ramified interests throughout the land, in which would be embraced the study and observation of health, diseases, epidemics, climatology, meteorology, etc. In the event of the establishment of this great enterprise, every State should have a councillor, and all be present at any meeting; some, at least, would be able men. Each councillor should hold office for five years, and be re-elected if such should be thought desirable. In addition, the speaker suggested that this Association should have the right to select, every five years, four men as councillors at large, for the nation, to be chosen from four divisions of the country, each man to serve five years. And finally the National Government should be represented in the council by the Health Secretary, Surgeon General and signal officer, that they may be able to answer questions pertaining to their several fields of labor. This would take from this Association some right of nominating in the national council, but the association would still stand higher, in having four representatives. The fact of the constant change of the place of meeting must compel the Association to be more or less sectional in its action, however much it may claim to be a national body. This health association, composed of one from the medical organization of each State, would be of national significance, and as a national body, transacting public business, its members should have reasonable compensation and mileage granted them. But the great object now was to begin to educate the people up to a knowledge of their wants in this direction, and to this end the following re-

solutions appended to the paper were read by the speaker:—

Resolved, That each year, until otherwise ordered, the president-elect and the permanent secretary be directed to appeal, in the name of this association, to the authorities of each State where no State Board of Health exists, urging them to establish such boards.

Resolved, That the permanent secretary is hereby directed annually to report the names of the States where boards of health exist, and also of those which decline to establish them; said report to form a part of the annual proceedings of the association.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

Dr. Yandell, Sr., from the Committee on Prize Essays, reported that they had received a number of essays, carefully written, and marked by various degrees of merit. But, after a careful examination of them as the committee have had time to make, they were not prepared to recommend any as worthy of the prize offered by the Association. One of the papers submitted to the committee was a work of vast dimensions. It makes four volumes, and an aggregate of more than 1200 pages. The committee found it utterly impossible, in the time at their disposal, to look through this elaborate paper. It treats of "Excision of the Larger Joints," and the committee was of the opinion that it was worthy of examination. Its report was therefore deferred until next year.

OZONE.

The chief of the United States Signal Service was requested, if it is within his power, to note in his daily weather reports the quantity of ozone in the atmosphere in different sections of the country.

SALARY OF ARMY PHYSICIANS.

On motion of Dr. Westmoreland, the Association unanimously adopted a resolution recommending to Congress that the salaries of the physicians of the army be increased.

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT.

Dr. Nathan Davis moved the following:—

Resolved, That in the death of the late Dr. James McNaughton, of Albany, N. Y., we recognize the loss of one of the earliest, oldest and most distinguished members of this Association. One who for more than half a century had been a noble example of the upright citizen, the untiring physician, the enthusiastic teacher, and the true Christian gentleman.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be communicated to the family of the deceased.

Dr. Gross, having in a few remarks testified to the virtues of the deceased, the resolutions were passed by a rising vote.

MASSACHUSETTS EMBRACES KENTUCKY.

Dr. Bowditch led off with a little complimentary speech, of which the following is an outline:—

"This is the first time that I have been in the old Kentucky State, a State for which I have ever entertained the highest admiration. I have known and been connected with many of her great men, politically and professionally, and have consequently been led to think that it was a State filled with great men. I had heard of the hospitality of Kentucky, but I was not prepared to realize the overwhelming nature of the term as understood in the State itself. I came also with the desire of meeting my professional brethren from the South, and wanted to assure them that, however much they had suffered, we also had suffered, and to offer them the right hand of fellowship. He thought the record of the Association would prove one of the strongest bonds in the future preservation of the Union. I have sat down with Southern men, and enjoyed the relation of their experiences upon the fields of battle. The dead of both sections should be held alike sacred, and the time will come when we shall decorate the graves of both Confederate and Federal soldier. I should be delighted to stand by the grave of Stonewall Jackson and throw a chaplet upon it.

"For these reasons I am rejoiced to be here, to find my anticipations far more than realized." He sincerely thanked the physicians of Louisville that they had kept true to their resolution of not allowing the use of wine during the meeting of the Association. If any men should set an example of sobriety, they should be the physicians. He admitted, however, that he himself was in the habit of taking a glass or two of sherry wine daily, but such was not used intemperately.

One of the most charming things connected with the Association was the presence of women. This always tended to harmonize matters, for when men got together they were apt to say things they would not say before their wives. Their influence here had been for good. This, with the absence of wine, had furnished a stimulus that was more praiseworthy and beneficial than any that could be produced by artificial means.

In conclusion Dr. Bowditch offered to the citizens of Louisville the following resolution of thanks:—

"Resolved, That the American Medical Association presents its sincere and hearty thanks to the citizens of Louisville, Ky., for the unbounded hospitality with which the Association has been entertained."

A unanimous call was made for a speech from the venerable Professor Gross.

In response to this, the distinguished gentleman, who at the time was sitting on the stage, advanced and attempted to make a few remarks. He began by saying:—

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—If I were gifted with the eloquence characteristic of the gentleman who has just preceded me, I should indulge in a few remarks. As it is, I can only reiterate the sentiments that have been so beautifully expressed.

COMPLIMENTARY RESOLUTIONS.

Resolutions complimentary to the ladies of Kentucky were passed, without the formality of having the negative put to the house. Votes of thanks were tendered to railroad companies for courtesies shown the Association, and also to Mr. Will S. Hays, manager of the Public Library Hall.

ADJOURNED.

President Bowling then adjourned the Association in the following address:—

GENTLEMEN—Before the adjournment of the twenty-sixth meeting of the American Medical Association, we may be permitted to congratulate each other upon the general good feeling and perfect harmony that must make it memorable. The cherished members of our calling have graced this meeting with their presence, and lavished the wealth of their ripe experience upon it, and the great city of the meeting literally overwhelmed us with a hospitality whose abundance was only equaled by its

elegance. We have seen for ourselves, at this great commercial capital, goodly specimens of the beautiful women and gallant men of a State whose history brings a gorgeous chaplet to eloquence, song and heroism. Gentlemen, the wise utilize all things possible—life, lightning and liberty. We have made conspicuous elements of hygiene, prophylaxis and therapeutics. Let us make useful in the future memories awakened by our surroundings.

We are on the magic land of Daniel Boone, Henry Clay and Ephraim McDowell. What traits of character bear these honorable names to the heavens, and gild them with so divine a light? Will indomitable, and courage that dared all things. The paths of the immortal trio all meet here. Let us light our torches at their altars, and emulate their virtues. Let us will what is right, and dare to do what it indicates.

Gentlemen, we now stand adjourned, to meet again in Philadelphia, the first Tuesday in June, 1876.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

PERISCOPE.

A Remarkable Nerve Tonic.

Dr. J. J. Caldwell, of Baltimore, in a paper published in the *Virginia Medical Monthly*, gives an account of a Mexican plant called *damiana*, possessing singular aphrodisiac powers. The following cases illustrate this:—

CASE 1.—Mr. H., of Carroll county, Md., aged 70, called, June, 1874, to be treated for impotency. As he had just married his fourth wife, he manifested great anxiety concerning his weakened powers. I advised him to try the benefit of the faradic current through the genito-sacral plexus. His occupation being such as to require almost constant travel, he was unable to follow my orders in this particular. I then placed him upon the strong tincture of *damiana*, in tablespoonful doses three or four times a day, which resulted in a marked improvement in his procreative powers, so that after a few weeks' continued use of the remedy he reported himself "well able to enjoy sexual congress, of course observing a moderation due in a man of his age."

CASE 2.—In October, 1874, Mr. M., of Baltimore, informed me that his wife, after a severe illness, with mental trouble, lost all her sexual appetite, her age being 40. Her health being

well re-established, I resorted to this nervine tonic with very happy results. Her husband, being robust and vigorous, as a matter of experiment, used the same remedy in tablespoonful doses twice a day, resulting in excessive and almost ungovernable sexual desire; and this has proven true in several other cases of vigorous constitution upon which I have experimented.

CASE 3.—Col. L., of Baltimore, aged 55, called, December, 1874, suffering from general debility of the urino-genital organs, attributed to the excessive use of alcohol. He, too, was placed upon the tincture of *damiana*, and followed it up faithfully for a month or six weeks, with the very best results, greatly increasing the secretion of his urine, besides improving his sexual ability.

CASE 4.—Mr. K. has been under my care for over a year, suffering from stricture of the urethra, with extreme irritation of the bladder (sympathetic). The stricture was treated by galvanic electrolysis successfully, by placing an elastic insulated steel-pointed catheter, attached to the negative pole of the galvanic battery, applying the same with gentle pressure, while the positive pole, a zinc plate four inches square, covered with a napkin saturated with salt water, was placed over the sacral spine; these applications made on alternate days, with fifteen minutes' application each. After the stricture had been absorbed and removed by this mode of treatment, the irritability of the parts yielded to the use of the tincture of *damiana*, in moderate doses, twice a day.

REVIEWS AND BOOK NOTICES.

NOTES ON CURRENT MEDICAL LITERATURE.

—"The History of the Philadelphia School of Anatomy," is an entertaining lecture, delivered last March, at the dissolution of the School, by Dr. William W. Keen. It is, furthermore, a valuable contribution to the history of medical instruction in Philadelphia (Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia).

—A Paper before the New York Society of Neurology and Electrology, by Dr. A. D. Rockwell, is entitled "The Relation of Electro-Therapeutics to Electro-Physiology." It vindicates in strong terms the results of electrophysiological studies (Published by Wm. Wood & Co., New York).

—We acknowledge—

Case of Intra-Laryngeal Tumor, by Dr. Beverly Robinson.

Report of the Eye and Ear Institute, of the Philadelphia Dispensary.

Report of Wills Ophthalmic Hospital.

BOOK NOTICES.

What Young People Should Know: The Reproductive Function in Man and the Lower Animals. By Burt G. Wilder, Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Zoology, at Cornell University, etc. With 26 Illustrations. Boston, Estes & Lauriat. Cloth. 8vo., pp. 212. Price \$1.50.

Within the last six or eight years there has been a marked relaxation in the severity with which medical facts were withheld from the public. No longer ago than the period mentioned, it was considered quite derogatory for a medical writer to express any but the most jejune teachings to the general public. Some independent and honest minds threw aside these absurd notions, and met with criticism as unjust as it was severe.

Very tardily the rank and file of professional writers are following in their footsteps. It is beginning to be acknowledged that the public should be taught what it is important for them

to know; and that the study of physiology is not necessarily degrading.

The reproductive powers are peculiarly apt to be associated with mystery, and their study tabooed with violence. In the work before us an eminent anatomist deliberately comes forward, and in a book, no line of which can call a blush to the most sensitive cheek, explains, in clear and simple language, the structure and functions of the elements of generation, and draws from their consideration the precepts of health and hygiene, which will save the individual from unwitting abuse of his powers.

The work is divided into three parts, the anatomy, physiology and hygiene of human reproduction, to which are added an appendix answering the objections to the propriety of publications such as the present, a second giving the views of Claude Bernard on embryonic evolution, and a third containing a bibliography.

In parts the explanations seem too technical for the general reader; the minute description of embryological development is instructive to scientific students, but we fear will not be entertaining to those who have never seen these specimens in nature.

With the author's remarks on hygiene we thoroughly concur. They are true and necessary, and the youth who will read them with intent to practice them, will find in them a guide whom he need not distrust, which can be said of few of the books on such subjects which fall into his hands.

Health Officer's Annual Report of the Births, Marriages and Deaths, in the City of Philadelphia, in 1874. Philadelphia, 1875. pp. 162.

This report, compiled as carefully as the nature of the system of returns adopted permits, indicates a total, during the year, of 19,387 births, 6639 marriages, and 16,315 deaths. This, on the estimated population, gives a mortality of 19.66 per thousand, a very satisfactory result, if it is dependable, but probably a better showing than real accuracy could exhibit. As usual, consumption of the lungs calls for much the larger number of victims, the number of deaths registered under this head being 2304. No epidemic prevailed seriously during the year, scarlet fever being the most conspicuous, to which 354 deaths are attributed. Among the deaths twelve are assigned an age over one hundred years, and two of these over one hundred and ten.

THE
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A WEEKLY JOURNAL,

Issued every Saturday.

D. G. BRINTON, M. D., EDITOR.

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115 South Seventh Street,
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THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Proceedings of the American Medical Association, which are reported in this number of our journal, have an interest for every physician in the United States, whether he is a member of the organization or not, and this independent of the scientific value which attaches to the utterances of men known throughout the world for their thorough professional qualifications.

The interest to which we allude is that illustrated in the union of professional aims, in the consolidation of the power of the guild to accomplish—not objects of personal ambition and individual emolument—but benefits to the whole people of this country, sanitary reforms, legislative protection from charlatanism, the prevention of sophistication in drugs, and kindred objects. No one who feels the urgent need of such things will refrain from lending his aid, or at least his voice, in bringing them about. And although he may not, for personal reasons,

deem himself called upon to assume a prominent part in their advocacy, he will not allow indifference or jealousy to prevent him from applauding and cheering those who devote their time to such public interests.

It is so much easier to find fault and point out defects and fallibilities than resolutely to set to work with the determination of success, that the Association has been more frequently censured with rancor for its misses, than applauded for its hits. Strange, indeed, if, in the quarter century of its life, during a period when our country was torn asunder by the bitterest feuds, it had not exposed itself to just strictures. It has done so, and they have been administered in friendly, though direct terms, in this and other journals; but never has the REPORTER descended to such false charges as that the Association is a local and partisan body, "the creature of a few self-seeking leaders, the representative of but a part, and that the lesser part, of the American medical profession. Such charges have been made, and no long time since, by the noisy editors of some local medical periodicals. The very emptiness of these criticisms were their own refutation.

In the proceedings of the last two meetings of the Association, the impartial reader will find nothing that he will wish were undone, much that he is glad to learn as done and as doing. The scientific work in the Sections is growing more and more in value, the attendance is increasingly large and truly representative, barren discussions of questions of privilege are banished from the record, and the topics which should properly come before the Association, because they concern the professional man, wherever he is in our broad land, are more and more the subjects of debate.

Next year the Association has decided to hold its session in this city, where, at the same time, the nation at large will be engaged in celebrating the hundredth anniversary of its life as an independent State. No action could be more appropriate. The reunion in Philadelphia will

be enlivened by the vast concourse of visitors from all the States of our Union, and many from remote climes. An exhibition of the resources and industries of our land, such as never again will any one of this generation see, will be spread out for the entertainment of the members. And thus a double incentive will be offered for a complete representation of every local Society in the United States.

We look forward with confidence to such a result, and we predict that the next session will surpass, in enthusiasm, good feeling, and good results, any of its predecessors.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Professor de Mussy on Poly-pharmacy.

This eminent teacher says, in his *Clinique Medicale* :—

"Because, in bygone times, the most heterogeneous mixtures were used, or rather abused, in medicine, some physicians cover with ridicule, and seek to crush under the nickname of poly-pharmacy, the combinations in a prescription of medicines not chemically incompatible, and tending to one end. This exclusiveness, now very prevalent in Paris, does not commend itself to my mind as logical. If you are experimenting on the action of a given remedy, isolate it by all means, as perfectly as possible; but if your object be to benefit your patient by using drugs whose action you believe you know, what possible objection can there be to combining them, if not chemically incompatible, and if the stomach will tolerate the compound? In a battle all sorts of weapons are used simultaneously, and their action is concentrated on the point judged most important. This pharmaceutical purism seems to me exaggerated; but I must not be understood as recommending mixtures when a single drug is sufficient, or as wishing to recur to the age of elixirs and electuaries. *In medio stat virtus.*"

Statistics of Berlin.

Some curious statistics of the mortality of Berlin have been collected by Dr. Schwalbe. He states that at the last census the death-rate among the dwellers in different kinds of habitations was as follows: Among those inhabiting the first floors of houses it was 21.6 per

1000; for the ground-floor inhabitants, 22; for cellar-dwellers, 25.3. The death-rate in second-floor rooms was 21.8; in third-floor, 22.6; and in fourth or higher, 28.2. The mortality was thus greatest in the cellar-dwellings and those of the highest floors in houses, that in the latter exceeding the former. This difference is less obvious and even reversed when the factor of social well-being is taken into account, for it appears that the inhabitants of the attics of Berlin are, as a rule, poorer than those of the cellars.

Use of the Stomach-pump.

Washing out of the stomach, and the aspiration of liquids secreted by it, is more and more practiced in Germany, since Kussmaul highly praised this method. Dr. Schliep uses it in nearly all affections of the stomach, especially in chronic gastritis, with or without dilatation. The cure of chronic catarrh, according to his account in the *Deutsche Klinik*, vol. xiv, would require but a limited number of applications. In simple catarrh five would suffice on an average. He uses this method even in the dyspepsia of consumptive patients. In dilatation of the stomach, he empties that organ with the pump every day. He performs the washing out, even in cancer, with pure water; or adds bicarbonate of soda to the water, if the liquids be very acid; or permanganate of potash, if these liquids show signs of fermentation; carbolic acid, when they contain vegetable parasites; boracic acid, as a disinfectant, and tincture of myrrh, in atonic dyspepsia with abundant secretion of mucus.

Excision of Tonsils.

The *Lancet* says that a writer in the *Revue de Thérapeutique Medico-Chirurgicale*, for March 15th, in a note upon amygdalotomy, suggested by a new guillotine, states that the operation is sometimes attended with fatal hemorrhage, but that it is never necessary to remove the whole, or even the greater part of a tonsil, the cicatrization following on removal of the superficial parts alone sufficing to reduce its size; nor is it essential to operate on more than one of these organs. Strong preference is given to the employment of the guillotine over the bistoury, because of the inutility of removal of large portions, and the less liability to accidents. In support of the necessity of operating speedily in certain cases, a melancholy instance is given

from the practice of the writer, in which the patient, a girl of sixteen years, suffering from angina, with great enlargement of tonsils, literally died from asphyxia, from excision being deferred, at the instance of a colleague who thought hemorrhage would be very severe, and that the case would speedily get well if left alone.

Adulteration of Intoxicants.

Raw alcohol is bad enough, but not the worst which bar-room frequenters have to swallow. An English report states that a public analyst officially examined 170 samples of intoxicating drinks, with the result that a large proportion were found to be adulterated. The ales tested were sophisticated with *cocculus indicus*, than which a more pernicious adulterant cannot be found; they were also largely impregnated with salt, and occasionally contained colchicum. Some of the brandies underwent most complicated processes, in which a preparation of cayenne pepper played a considerable part, before being sold to the unfortunate consumers. Teetotalers will be interested to learn that "Good Templars' claret" is mainly composed of decoction of logwood, free sulphuric acid, and impure spirit containing much fusil oil. We have no doubt the adulterations are still worse in this country, where sanitary inspection of beverages is unknown.

The Sleep of Plants.

Sir John Lubbock, in one of his recent works, calls attention to a remarkable peculiarity of plants and flowers, with reference to their relation to insects, the habit of "sleeping" which characterizes certain species. The habit of closing their petals during rain is obviously to prevent the pollen from being washed away. But why should flowers go to sleep?

"In animals we can understand it; they are tired, and require rest. But why should flowers sleep? Why should some flowers do so, and not others? Moreover, different flowers keep different hours. The daisy opens at sunrise, and closes at sunset, whence its name, 'day's eye.' Many open and close, it appears, at particular hours, as if to guard against the robbery of the pollen by insects incapable of fertilizing flowers; while wind-fertilizing flowers never sleep, and night-flowering blossoms are generally deficient in the attractive scents, spots and lines which serve as honey guides to bees."

Homœopathists as Members of Medical Societies.

The objections to admitting homœopathists as members of regular medical societies are well put by the editor of the *British Medical Journal*. He remarks that it "would involve an admission which cannot, we think, be fairly made, the admission that they are capable of fairly weighing medical evidence and discussing profitably questions of medical science and practice. So long as they call themselves homœopaths, and profess the absurdity of basing their whole theory and practice of medicine upon the doctrine that *similia similibus curantur*, we do not see that they can expect to be treated otherwise than spiritualists are treated by reasonable persons, with personal courtesy but professional and polite contempt. Homœopathy, like spiritualism, is not truly a doctrine in any scientific sense, but an abnegation of reason. It is quite certain that it has been largely supported, like spiritualism, by trickery; and that its professors may be broadly divided into dupes of nature and sciolists in art."

Ethiops Mineral.

Our readers are already acquainted with the advocacy of Ethiops mineral (black sulphuret of mercury) by Prof. Socrates Cadet, of Rome. A translation of two of his late pamphlets appears in the *Charleston Medical Journal and Review*, by Dr. Porcher, accompanied by a recommendation, which we repeat, to give this substance a fair trial. We have also been favored with the perusal of a recent letter of Prof. Cadet to Dr. William B. Atkinson, of this city, in which the writer states that the vapors of the sulphuret have been efficient in protecting from the paludal fevers of the Campagna, etc. Equal parts of mercury and flowers of sulphur are boiled in water, in the room, in such quantities that the vapor is not unpleasant. This means is so simple and easy that its use is to be recommended, at least, experimentally.

Quinine as an Antipyretic.

A letter from Germany states that Professor Bamberger, successor to Oppolzer, has been using quinine pretty widely as an antipyretic or dephlogistic. He has found single doses of fifteen grains to reduce very markedly the temperature in pneumonia; and the diminution continues for forty-eight hours; a return of pyrexia is checked by a second smaller dose of quinine. In cases where it is not contra-indi-

cated by age or feebleness, Bamberger now combines with quinine the use of the wet sheet, and with excellent result. Except nourishment and palliation of any troublesome symptom, no other treatment is pursued.

A New Drug.

Elsewhere, in this number, we quote some account of a new drug, *damiana*. Although the gentleman whose account we publish, and the journal from which we quote it, deserve entire respect, we advise our readers to be in no hurry to apply for it until we can publish the results of some inquiries we have made of our Mexican correspondents. It seems, at present, to be too much the property of one pharmacist, and it may be a nostrum in disguise.

Crayons of Iodoform.

The *Doctor* says, M Gallard prescribes crayons of iodoform, which he allows to remain in the cavity of the neck of the uterus, retained in position by means of a tampon of cotton. These crayons are used with advantage in cases of superficial ulceration of the neck which has invaded the cavity. The formula is:—

R. Iodoform, in very fine powder, 3iss
 Gum arabic, finely powdered, gr. viijss.

Sufficient mucilage to make into a pilular consistence. Divide into ten cylinders, each about one inch long; dry in the air for twenty-four hours. Each crayon contains a little less than a grain of iodoform. These cylinders are hard and resistant; they may be divided into morsels without breaking.

They become disintegrated in the open air, and much more rapidly in the uterine cavity. In order to preserve these crayons, they should be sealed in a dark and air-tight bottle.

Low Temperature in Excessive Inebriation.

The following case is given by Dr. Shattuck, in a letter from Vienna, to the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*:—

A comatose man was brought into the hospital one Sunday afternoon, by the police, who had found him in a freight car on a siding of one of the railways. His temperature was taken, both in the axilla and in the rectum, at least two thermometers being used, and found to be 24.4 deg. C. (76 deg. Fahr). Twelve hours later, it had come up to 33 deg. C. (91 deg. Fahr); and not very long afterwards the man came to his senses, and said that Saturday afternoon

he was on a spree, and was conscious of having drank three champagne bottles full of brandy. He must then have wandered about till he laid himself down in the empty freight car in which he was found twenty-four hours later. He recovered entirely.

NEWS AND MISCELLANY.

The Stamp Duty on Medical Preparations.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue, in an official letter to a gentleman in this city, states that under present rulings his office holds,

(1.) That all patent and proprietary medicines and medicinal preparations, and all medicines, etc., for which any proprietary claim is made, real or pretended, must be stamped when sold, offered, or exposed for sale.

(2.) That official and standard medicines, etc., prepared according to the formulæ published in authorized medical books or journals, put up and labeled simply with the name of the article and the name of the maker or compounder, are exempt from stamp tax, without the "formula and where found" being printed or referred to in any manner upon such label.

(3.) That official medicines, etc., put up in a style or manner similar to patent or proprietary medicines in general, the same being in retail packages with labels attached stating the diseases for which they are remedies, stating the dose and giving directions for use, are liable to stamp tax, *unless*, in addition to such matter, as is indicated above, there shall be also printed on the label the formula and the reference to the standard medical book or journal where the formula is found; or a distinct announcement that the article in question is made or compounded according to a published formula, with a distinct reference to the standard authority where found, in the manner hereinbefore described. In this latter case such medicines, etc., so put up are not liable to stamp tax.

(4.) Unofficial medicines, or medicines, etc., made, prepared, or compounded, but not in accordance with formulæ published in any standard Dispensatory or Pharmacopœia, Pharmaceutical Journal, etc., are liable to stamp tax, *unless* the exact formula is printed upon the labels attached to such articles, and unless there is an absence of all claim to any proprietorship in the making or preparing of the same.

Epidemics.

—A despatch from Quebec says the small-pox, which was epidemic in Ancienne Lorette, has much diminished. The cases thus far have numbered 500, and deaths 161.

—Sporadic cases of yellow fever still occur at Key West.

—The cholera is reported as epidemic in the city of Baroda, near Bombay.

Items.

—The Shanghai Gazette, alluding to the death of the late Emperor of China, conveys the information that shortly before the Emperor's death a gigantic image, the Goddess of Smallpox, was paraded round the city of Peking in solemn procession, and then taken into the very bedchamber of the dying youth, where it was worshiped and honored with many propitiatory offerings. As, however, the goddess continued obdurate, she was subjected to a severe threshing and other insults, and finally burned. The fatal result of the attack was, we suppose, her revenge for the mal-treatment.

—The Government of India states that they are desirous of every encouragement being given to ladies to study for a degree in medicine, in which case they must attend the full curriculum of prescribed studies; but when the ladies themselves prefer the more limited and practical course of study, arrangements may be made accordingly, and, on the completion of the course of study, certificates can be given by the collegiate authorities of the degree of efficiency acquired in each subject.

—The Glasgow Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has, on the motion of Sir William Thompson, seconded by Prof. Nichol, resolved to petition Parliament in favor of a Bill for imposing proper restrictions on the practice of vivisection.

—It is reported that the Italian Government, following the course it has already adopted on previous occasions, will gratuitously distribute this year five thousand plants of the *Eucalyptus globulus*, for cultivation in the Agro Romano, especially in the spot infected by malaria.

—The Prussian Government has been petitioned to legalize cremation, but has refused, professing itself constitutionally incompetent to grant the permission. A special law passed by the Legislature would be requisite to effect the object.

Personal.

—Dr. T. B. Smith, a prominent physician at Nyack, New York, and President of the local Medical Society, died suddenly, April 14.

—Dr. Edouard Hitzig, of Berlin, who is well known for his researches on the functions of the brain, has been elected to the chair of Psychology in the University of Zürich.

—Prof. Billroth, of Vienna, recently gave a lecture in which he strongly condemned the introduction of females into the ranks of the medical and surgical profession, and went so far as to say that women's mental powers were far inferior to men's on the average, and that the character of their minds unfitted them for the exercise of medicine.

OBITUARY.

DR. WILLIAM S. HENDRIE

Died at his residence, Doylestown, Pa., April 20th, from nephritic disease. Dr. Hendrie was born in

Sussex county, New Jersey, in December, 1798. His father, Joseph J. Hendrie, was a native of Scotland, and graduated in medicine at the University of Edinburgh, but spent most of his life in the practice of his profession among the mountains of northern New Jersey. William S. Hendrie obtained his diploma from the University of Pennsylvania, in 1823, and practiced in Hilltown twelve years. About 1840 he removed to Doylestown. He took an active part in the political issues of the day. In 1861 he was examining surgeon for the county, under the State militia law, and since the close of the war for the Union he has been medical examiner for the county under the pension laws. He was a Christian in practice, no less than in belief, and in his daily walk always sought to obey the law of the Master he followed. He was a man of remarkable good health, and previous to his last sickness had not been seriously ill for fifty-eight years.

ISAAC J. HUNT, M. D.,

A prominent physician, and a well-known citizen, died at his residence, Utica, New York, January 22d, 1875, of typhoid pneumonia. Deceased was about 53 years old, and was a graduate of Castleton Medical College, Vermont. He leaves a wife and two sons, the oldest of whom is James G. Hunt, a physician and surgeon, a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia. During Dr. Hunt's long and successful practice in the city of Utica, he was a kind and generous man to the poor, and wore himself out doing good to others. He never flattered or deceived his patients by holding out false hopes. With a clear and accurate judgment, and a kind and sympathizing heart, he ardently devoted himself to the profession. His noblest monument is in the grateful hearts of thousands who have been blessed by his professional skill and made happy by his kindness.

MARRIAGES.

FROWERT-KESSLER.—On January 4th, at the Tioga St. Presbyterian Church, by the Rev. A. V. C. Schenck, Charles G. Frowert, M. D., and Miss Josie Kessler, all of this city.

HAMILTON-WALLACE.—At Pittsburgh, February 25th, by the Rev. J. K. McKallip, Hugu Hamilton, M. D., of Harrisburg, and Miss Florence, daughter of the late Rev. Benjamin Wallace, D. D., of this city.

MATHEWS-ULMER.—At the residence of Joseph H. Brooks, Camden, N. J., April 7th, by Friends' ceremony, Franklin Mathews, M. D., of Temple, Pa., and Annie E. Ulmer, of this city.

DEATHS.

CADWALLADER.—At the residence of his father, William Cadwallader, near Yardleyville, Bucks county, Pa., Dr. D. Willis Cadwallader, of Philadelphia, aged 38 years.

COATES.—In this city, on the 11th inst., Louis M. Coates, M. D., in the 46th year of his age.

HENDRIE.—At Doylestown, Pa., April 20th, 1875, Dr. William S. Hendrie, in the 77th year of his age.

MCCREDY.—In this city, on the 27th ult., Dr. Jeremiah F. X. McCredy, aged 68 years.

SCOFFIN.—In this city, on Monday morning, April 26th, Francis Scoffin, M. D., in the 64th year of his age.

STILES.—In this city, on the 27th ult., Edward Stiles, Jr., M. D., son of Edward and the late Caroline C. Stiles.